

**CYNGOR SIR  
24 IONAWR 2024**

**POLISI CYFARFODYDD AML-LEOLIAD**

**ARGYMHELLIAD Y PWYLLGOR GWASANAETHAU DEMOCRATAIDD:**

**'PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL ARGYMELL I'R CYNGOR fod y Polisi Cyfarfodydd Aml-leoliad diwygiedig yn cael ei gymeradwyo.'**

**Y RHESYMAU:**

Adolygu a sicrhau bod y polisi cyfarfodydd Aml-leoliad yn briodol.

Angen i'r Cabinet wneud penderfyniad

NAC OES

Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad

OES

**Yr Aelod o'r Cabinet sy'n Gyfrifol am y Portffolio:-** Cyng. Linda Evans – Dirprwy Arweinydd

**Arall:-** Cyng. Michael Cranham – Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

**Y Gyfarwyddiaeth**

Y Prif Weithredwr

**Swyddi:**

Rhifau ffôn / Cyfeiriadau e-bost:

**Enw Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth:**

Linda Rees-Jones

Pennaeth Gweinyddiaeth a'r Gyfraith

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**Awdur yr Adroddiad:**

Gaynor Morgan

Pennaeth y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
COUNTY COUNCIL  
24 JANUARY 2024**

**MULTI-LOCATION MEETING POLICY**

With the implementation of “The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 the Welsh Government has provided Councils the power and freedom to convene multi-location meetings which will enable greater accessibility and public participation in local government decision making.

Meetings must be capable of being held virtually, but each authority can decide whether their meetings will be held fully virtually or multi-location (where some participants are in the same physical location, whilst others join the meeting virtually, also referred to as ‘hybrid meetings’). Authorities cannot hold purely physical meetings (apart from the Dyfed Powys Police & Crime Panel which is subject to separate regulation).

The Authority’s Multi location meeting policy was approved by Council on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022 (Minute 4.1 refers) and took into account the interim statutory guidance issued by Welsh Government. Welsh Government published the final guidance on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and it is now an appropriate time to review the policy based on our experience of multi-location meetings to-date.

Proposed amendments to the policy, as highlighted in red, include greater guidance on the use of cameras. Some members have not responded when called to speak by the Chair, therefore greater emphasis has been placed on the requirement for members to remain in the meeting throughout debates and during voting, this is particularly important in order to maintain the integrity of the decision-making process and to reduce the opportunity for legal challenge of any decision. Members who need to leave the meeting early or temporarily (i.e. to take a phone call) should notify the Democratic Services Officer that they are no longer present.

**DETAILED REPORT  
ATTACHED?**

**YES.**

## IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

**Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

### Legal

This Policy has been drafted having regard to the provisions of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and the Welsh Government Statutory and Non Statutory Guidance on democracy within principal councils and particularly guidance on multi-location meetings.

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

**Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law**

- 1.Scrutiny Committee** Not applicable
- 2.Local Member(s)** Not applicable
- 3.Community / Town Council** Not applicable
- 4.Relevant Partners** Not applicable
- 5.Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** Not applicable

### Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Canllawiau Llywodraeth Cymru		<a href="https://www.llyw.cymru/sites/default/files/pdf-versions/2023/8/1/1692615160/statutory-and-non-statutory-guidance-democracy-within-principal-councils-contents.pdf">https://www.llyw.cymru/sites/default/files/pdf-versions/2023/8/1/1692615160/statutory-and-non-statutory-guidance-democracy-within-principal-councils-contents.pdf</a>
WG Guidance		<a href="https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/pdf-versions/2023/8/1/1691417050/statutory-and-non-statutory-guidance-democracy-within-principal-councils-contents.pdf">https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/pdf-versions/2023/8/1/1691417050/statutory-and-non-statutory-guidance-democracy-within-principal-councils-contents.pdf</a>
Council Constitution		<a href="https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/the-council/councils-constitution/">https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/the-council/councils-constitution/</a>